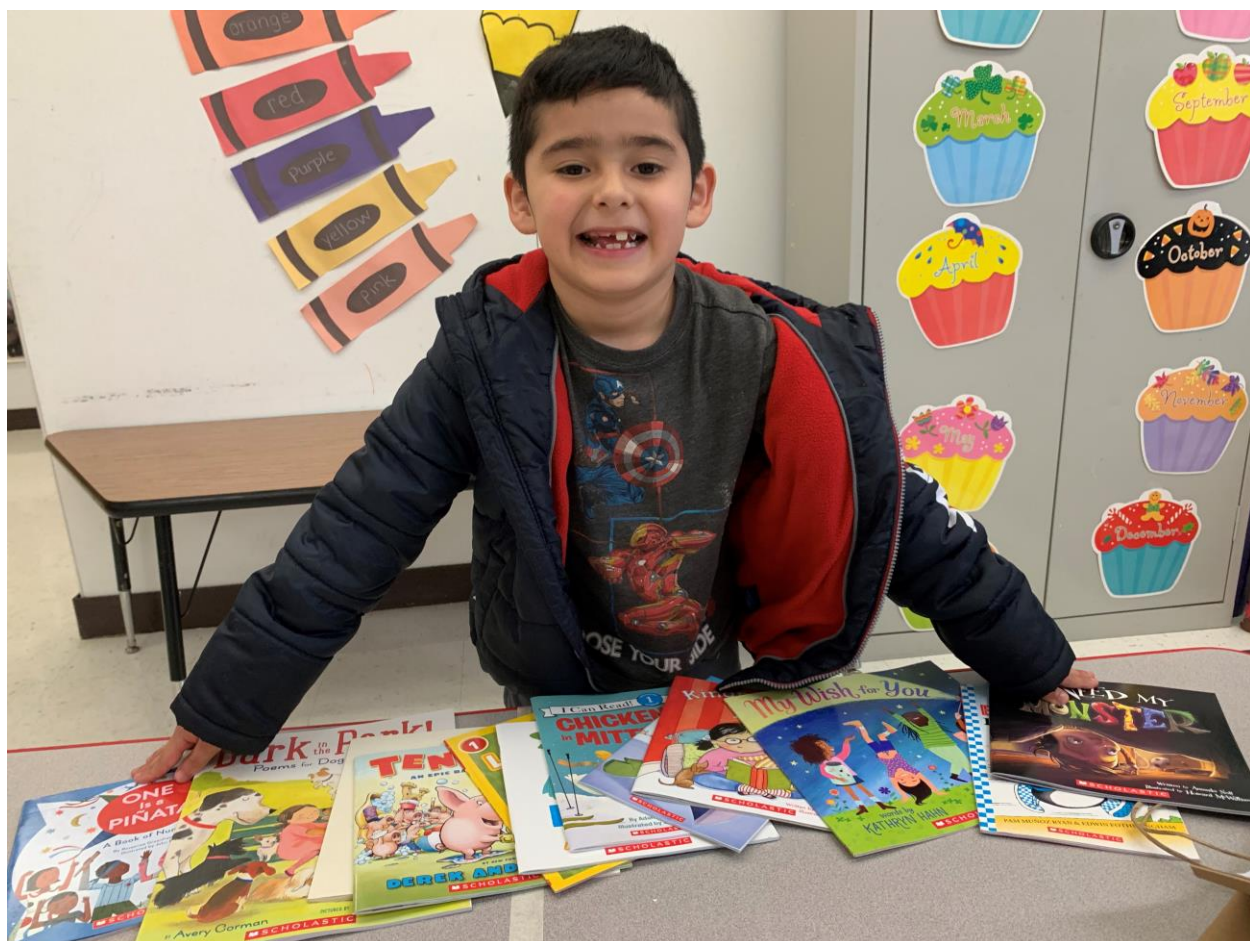




\*\*\* FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE \*\*\*

## Twelve Books for Each Kindergartner at Gordon Barbour Elementary

Charlottesville, Virginia (4/7/2022) – QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia, Inc. (QCV) is thrilled to report each of the 47 kindergartners at Gordon Barbour Elementary in Orange County has received twelve books and FUN giveaways. This ***Racquets for Reading!!!*** giveaway was funded by a generous grant from the American Woodmark Foundation.



Kindergarten teacher Annie Neeley says, “I wanted to reach out and express my gratitude to your organization for the generous grant that you made to our kindergarten program through Racquets for Reading!!! Many of our children are unable to acquire meaningful at-home libraries. Meaningful being that the libraries are filled with various titles (fiction and non-fiction), titles that are varied by level, picture books, and titles that are in their native language. With the funds we received, we were able to purchase 12 Scholastic books for each child. In each student's bag of books, we placed six leveled texts that the child could use to improve their own reading at home independently. We also were able to include six picture books that we have encouraged our parents to read with the child to help foster a love of reading at home. For our ESL families, three of the six picture books were bilingual so that the parents could also read to their children in their native language.

“Beyond the generous gift of a home library, this grant came at a time when we were gearing up for our school's Book Fair. Many of our students are not able to purchase

books at the Fair due to their families' financial situation, and to see their faces when they found out that they would be getting books for home was priceless.

“Each class has taken the time to write thank-you notes to the American Woodmark Foundation, but I wanted to express my own gratitude to you for this worthwhile project.”

Lynda Harrill, QCV QuickStart Coordinator, adds, “WOW!!! Twelve books is definitely a record number of books. We are so happy we could step up for these kids. Thank you to American Woodmark Foundation for making this possible.”



Please visit our [website](#) to learn more about what QCV is doing to promote physical activity, healthy eating and early childhood literacy for kids in our service area.

*Want to be a great adult?  
Play tennis! Read books! Eat healthy! Have FUN!!!  
Be a QuickStart kid!*

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QuickStart Tennis of Central Virginia is an all-volunteer, grassroots Community Tennis Association established in 2009 as a 501(c)(3) charitable organization to promote, develop and grow QuickStart Tennis in the heart of Virginia for all beginners, especially underserved youth, using the kid-sized QuickStart Tennis format. QCV's service area includes, Amelia, Appomattox, Brunswick, Buckingham, Campbell, Charlotte, Culpeper, Cumberland, Dinwiddie, Fluvanna, Franklin, Greene, Greensville, Halifax, Henry, Louisa, Lunenburg, Madison, Mecklenburg, Nelson, Nottoway, Orange, Patrick Pittsylvania, Prince Edward, Powhatan and Rappahannock counties and the cities of Charlottesville, Danville and Martinsville, plus under a special arrangement, King George County. We currently serve 214 schools with 101,000 kids, 15 parks & recreation departments, three Boys & Girls Clubs and two YMCAs, in 31 Virginia counties and independent cities. We have also gotten tennis into PE classes in 37 additional schools with 16,000 students in Virginia communities outside our service area.

Visit QCV at [www.quickstartcentral.org](http://www.quickstartcentral.org) and on [Facebook](#).

For additional information, contact [quickstartcentral@comcast.net](mailto:quickstartcentral@comcast.net).



*A racquet in every hand! A smile on every face!*



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